GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:267
ANSWERED ON:03.07.2009
WORKING DAYS UNDER NREGS
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal;Nirupam Shri Sanjay Brijkishorilal ;Sule Supriya

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds sanctioned, released and utilised during each of the last three years and the current year under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS), State-wise;

(b) the number of households which had demanded and were provided employment during the said period, State-wise;

(c) whether 100 days of guaranteed work was provided to the households which had demanded employment;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the average number of working days provided to every household during the said period; State-wise;

(e) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of days of guaranteed employment from the existing 100 days under the scheme; and

(f) if so, the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government to make employment available to the households for the guaranteed period?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a): NREGA is demand driven. State-wise data of the central release, total funds available and funds utilized by each State during the years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and the current year (up to May, 2009) is given in Annexure-I.

(b): Requisite data is given in Annexure-II.

(c) & (d): NREGA is demand based. The Act provides a legal guarantee for 100 days of employment to adult members of a rural household in a financial year for doing un- skilled manual work on demand. The number of days of employment availed by a household in a year under NREGA depends on the availability of other employment opportunities in an area. Number of households who were provided 100 days of employment during 2006-07 was 2142718, during 2007-08 was 3601926, during 2008- 09 was 6510373 and in the current year, so far (up to May, 09) 110910 households have completed 100 days of employment. Average number of days of employment provided to every household during 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 (up to May,2009) is given in Annexure-III.

(e): No, Sir. At present there is no proposal to increase the number of days of guaranteed employment from the existing 100 days under the scheme.

(f): With a view to ensure that all rural households avail the benefit of guaranteed period of employment on demand provided under NREGA, awareness generation among rural households through intensive IEC activities has been taken up. The efforts made in this regard involve print as well as electronic media such as brochures, people`s primers, hand books, TV spots, radio jingles, advertisements, films etc. Gram Sabhas have been convened. Village camps have been organized by the District teams and Self Help Groups associated with awareness generation campaign. Government of India has also introduced awards known as Rozgar Jagrookta Puraskar to recognize the outstanding contributions by the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) for promoting effective implementation of NREGA in different States of the Country. In the NREGA Sammelan held on 2.2.2009, five such NGOs have been awarded Rozgar Jagrookta Puraskar for their outstanding contributions in the field of awareness generation.